POL 14 VIETS

# Department of State TELEGRAM

(1285)

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R 10-1-67 Saigon 7352

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ACTION EA 19

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,U E 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,SP 02,
5
SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,SAH 03,SAL 01,L 03,H 02,P 04,
INR 07,EUR 25,IO 21,AID 30,RSR 01,/168 W

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Szabo DATE 1/20/82
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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

O R 011330Z OCT 67 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7957
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4412
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 1048
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2658

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ~~SAIGON 7352~~

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: VALIDATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

REF: SAIGON 7344

1. AT OCTOBER 1 AFTERNOON SESSION NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
GAN REVIEWOF ELECTION RETURNS. FIRST SPEAKER,
ECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN NGUYEN THANH VINH, READ
INTRODUCTORY REPORT SUMMARIZING COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS.
FREE TRANSLATION F VINH'S STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

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QUOTE. FELLOW MEMBERS, TODAY WE ARE PLEASED TO
MAKE OUR SECOND REPORT CONCERNING THE RESULTS OF THE

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ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

THE SPIRIT AND PURPOSE OF OUR COMMITTEE'S WORK WAS TO EXAMINE TWO ASPECTS OF THE ELECTION:

1. THE HONESTY AND PROPRIETY OF THE ELECTION:

2. THE ACCURACY AND REGULARITY OF THE RESULTS. WE HAD BEFORE US FOR EXAMINATION DOSSIERS FROM 8,954 POLLING PLACES.

WE ALSO REQUESTED THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO SUGGEST TO YOU, FELLOW MEMBERS, TO RETURNTO YOUR CONSTITUENCY ON ELECTION DAY TO OBSERVE THE ELECTION. AT THE SAME TIME WE SENT MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO ALL CORPS AREAS TO SEEK ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS. BUT BECAUSE OF LACK OF MEANS OR BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT TIME OUR MEMBERS DID NOT ACQUIRE MANY DOCUMENTS. WE ONLY HAD TEN DAYS IN WHICH TO REVIEW COMPLAINTS AND TO EXAMINE ELECTION REPORTS FROM THE 8,954 POLLING PLACES. I MUST ADMIT THAT THIS PERIOD OF TIME WAS INADEQUATE. MOREOVER REPORTS FROM THE PROVINCES REACHED US VERY SLOWLY. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 34 OF THE ELECTION LAW,

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ELECTION REPORTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TOGETHER WITH IRREGULAR BALLOTS AND ENVELOPES BY SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1967, AT THE LATEST. HOWEVER, SOME REPORTS WERE NOT RECEIVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15TH AND THERE WERE MANY PROVINCES WHICH DID NOT SEND US A TELEGRAM CONFIRMING THE ELECTION RESULTS UNTIL AS LATE AS SEPTEMBER 27TH OR SEPTEMBER 28TH.

IN ORDER TO PURSUE OUR WORK IN A CLEARER FASHION, WE WISH TO EXPLAIN TO YOU OUR METHOD OF WORK SO THAT YOU CAN JUDGE IT.

OUR FIRST TASK WAS TO COUNT THE NUMBER OF REPORTS TO ASSURE THAT WE HAD RECEIVED ALL OF THEM.

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SECOND, WE EXAMINED CRITERIA FOR IRREGULARITIES IN THE REPORTS.

WE WISH HERE TO MENTION TO YOU THE TYPES OF REPORTS WHICH WE CONSIDERED IRREGULAR:

1. WHERE THE NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO WENT TO THE POLLS WAS LISTED AS LARGER OR SMALLER THAN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REGULAR VOTES AND IRREGULAR ENVELOPES. THAT IS TO SAY, IF THE BALLOTING WAS PROPERJJ THEN THE

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NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO VOTED AT ANY GIVEN POLLING STATION SHOULD HAVE EQUALLED THE NUMBER OF VALID VOTES PLUS THE NUMBER OF INVALID ENVELOPES;

2. REPORTS UPON WHICH THERE HAD BEEN ERASURES ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO SIGNED EXPLANATION THEREFOR;

3. REPORTS WHICH LACKED THE SIGNATURE OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND ONE MEMBER OF THE POLLING COMMITTEE. (THAT IS THE REPORT DID NOT INDICATE THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR IT.);

4. INSTANCES WHERE BALLOT BOXES WERE MOVED ALTHOUGH THIS FACT WAS NOT RECORDED IN THE REPORT OR IT WAS SO RECORDED BUT NOT ACCORDING TO THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE 29 (C) OF THE ELECTION LAW;

5. INSTANCES WHERE REPORTS FROM MANY DIFFERENT POLLING STATIONS WERE WRITTEN BY THE SAME PERSON, PARTICULARLY IN CASES WHERE THESE POLLING AREAS WERE FIFTY OR SEVENTY KILOMETERS APART. WE FOUND ONE CASE WERE ONE PERSON HAD WRITTEN REPORTS FOR MANY DIFFERENT DISTRICTS AND VILLAGES. (QUANG NGAI);

6. INSTANCES WHERE OFFICIAL MESSAGES CONFIRMING



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THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION DIFFERED WITH THE RESULTS
INDICATED IN THE ELECTION REPORTS. (WE DID NOT CONSIDER
THOSE CASES WHERE DIFFERENCES WERE INSIGNIFICANT OR
CASES WHERE THE DISCREPANCY COULD HAVE BEEN BECAUSE
THE REPORT HAD BEEN HEARD INCORRECTLY.);

7. REPORTS IN WHICH THERE WAS CONFIRMATION THAT
VOTERS HAD VOTED MANY TIMES OR WHERE ONE PERSON HAD
MANY VOTER CARDS;

8. REPORTS BARING FALSE SIGNATURES BASED ON COMPARISONS
BETWEEN THE SIGNATURE ON THE TALLY SHEET AND THE SIGNATURE
ON THE ELECTION REPORT;

9. CASES WHERE THERE WAS A DISCREPANCY BETWEEN
THE NUMBER OF VOTERS FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE NUMBER OF
VOTERS FOR THE UPPER HOUSE. (WITH REGARD TO THIS CATEGORY
WE SENT A MESSAGE AND A MEMBER OF OUR COMMITTEE
TO THE CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL TO REQUEST FIGURES
FOR THE NUMBER OF VOTERS BY POLLING PLACES IN THE
UPPER HOUSE ELECTION. UNFORTUNATELY, THE CENTRAL
ELECTION COUNCIL COULD NOT FURNISH THIS INFORMATION.
IT WAS THEREFORE FURNISHED TO THE COMMITTEE BY MR. DO AI,
ONE OF OUR ASSEMBLY MEMBERS WHO BELONGS TO THE
CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL AND WHO HELPED US ACQUIRE
FIGURES FOR THE NUMBER OF VOTERS IN THE PROVINCES);

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ACTION EA 19

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,UCIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,SP 02,
SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,SAH 03,SAL 01,L 03,H 02,P 04,
INR 07,EUR 25,IO 21,AID 30,RSR 01,/168 W

O R 011330Z OCT 67 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7958
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4413
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 1049
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2659

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10. ELECTION REPORTS WHERE MISTAKES IN ADDITION WERE INTENTIONAL AND NOT THE RESULT OF AN UNINTENTIONAL ERROR. (PHU YEN PROVINCE MADE A 7,000 VOTE ERROR IN FAVOR OF ONE LIST.);

11. INSTANCES WHERE THE REPORT WAS SIGNED BEFORE THE RESULT OF THE VOTE COUNT WAS EVEN KNOWN. (UGIN PCHANH);

ACCORDING TO THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED ABOVE WE EXAMINED EVERY ELECTION REPORT AND PLACED THEM INTO

REWIE 2 RUMJIR 7352/2 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TWO CATEGORIES:

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A. REGULAR REPORTS (NOT REQUIRING FURTHER EXAMINATION):

B. IRREGULAR REPORTS (REQUIRING FURTHER REVIEW FOR CONFIRMATION):.

OF THE NATIONWIDE TOTAL OF 8,954 POLLING STATIONS WE FOUND 5,105 AFTER CAREFUL REVIEW AND SCREENING OUT INSTANCES OF UNINTENTIONAL MISTAKES WE CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE 2,531 IRREGULAR REPORTS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS AT THE 2,531 POLLING STATIONS CONCERNED WAS 1,695,558.

DEAR MEMBERS, YESTERDAY WE INFORMED YOU OF THE VOTE OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO THE VALIDITY OF THE SEPTEMBER 3RD ELECTION . TWO IN FAVOR OF VALIDATION, ONE BLANK BALLOT AND 16 AGAINST VALIDATION.

THIS, HOWEVER, IS MERELY THE SUPERFICIAL VIEW OF THE PROVINCIALCOMMITTEE. THAT CON
FISION RESTS WITH THE
ASSEMBLY.

I NOW WISH TO INTRODUCE TOL REPORTERS FROM MY


COMMITTEE FOR EACH OF THE REGIONS WHO WILL REPORT TO YOU IN MORE DETAIL SO THAT YOU MAY JUDGE THE PROPRIETY AS WELL AS ITS RESULTS OF THE ELECTION BEFORE REAPPING YLYN FINAL GSTE.# THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

2. ACCOUNT OF DEBATE WHICH FOLLOWED VINH'S SPEECH BEING SUBMITTED SEPTEL.

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NOTE: # AS RECEIVED.



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